

Big League Recruits are Scarce In Texas, Says Scout For the Giants

Dixon, the Greatest Fighter of All Time

Negro Is Given Place at the Top of the List Because of Triumphs Over Many Formidable Opponents—Fitzsimmons is a Close Second.

By W. W. NAUGHTON.

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif., Aug. 2.—Now it is a "fight fan" living in Windsor, Ont., who wishes to draw me out on certain points.

In a letter he says: "Seeing that you answered a question put by some fight fan as to who, in your opinion, was the most perfect Australian boxer, I wish to ask, who you consider was the greatest fighter of all time. If you do not care to answer this, would you please state who you consider the greatest negro fighter of all time?"

I'll do the best I can, and, to show you I am not inclined to shrink the issue, I will answer both your questions.

It so happens that in replying to the question, I reply to both, for the greatest fighter who ever lived, according to my idea, was a negro. And his name was George Dixon.

Individual Opinion. It will be as well for you to remember that this is merely an expression of individual opinion. There are no standards by which these questions can be possibly settled with mathematical exactness. Nor is there anything on the face of the earth on which both laymen and experts disagree more than the question of merits in pugilists. This because fighting appeals to the emotions. It arouses enthusiasm, and creates heroes and ideals.

I have no doubt there is still in existence a smattering of very old timers who will snort at the idea of Tom Sayers, and Ned O'Rafferty, and Donnelly and Cooper being possible contenders for this kind of little Dixon. But he is my choice. And I feel that Bob Fitzsimmons runs him a close second.

Dixon's Many Triumphs. I name George Dixon, because I believe he triumphed over a greater number of formidable opponents than any other man I ever heard of. Some fighters had their run for the championship, when the men they had to cope with, were on the downward grade. This was notably the case with Jim Jeffries. He defeated Bob Fitzsimmons, Jim Corbett and Peter Jackson, when each of these was well past his prime in a fighting sense. Whether or not he could have beaten them had he met them at their best, I do not know.

I know, however, that the world was raked and scraped for opponents for little Dixon. He met the best men of the various fighting countries when they held the championships of their various sections, and when it was made as clear as possible that there was nothing left in their own countries that could compare with them. And he won them all. He was like sunlight through a chink in a barn.

The same arguments apply largely to

in the case of Fitzsimmons. Taking his opponents, man by man, he cannot show so big an array of worthy contenders as Dixon, probably, but old Bob overcame more handicaps than any other fighter I have knowledge of. For this reason I consider he falls very little short of George Dixon in point of distinction, as the world's greatest fighter.

Ritchie Is Just Starting. Here is one fired at me from a point nearer home. "How does Willie Ritchie compare with the lightweight champions who preceded him?"

Up to date he does not begin to compare with the lightweight champions who preceded him. He is still young and lacking in experience, however, and may loom up as more of a world fighter in pugilism when he has pitted himself against men like Tommy Murphy, Freddy Welsh and Leach "Cross" Wolcott, who were, before, champions, was a wonderful fighter before appendicitis marked him for its own. His handling of Battling Nelson on Richmond field was something to live in memory even if little "Ad" had never accomplished anything else.

Battling Nelson in his prime was an interesting performer. And it was his negative qualities that made him worth while. There never was a man within 20 pounds of his weight, who could stand such rough usage and keep pressing steadily forward. He was the most gainly fighter of his class, by long odds, but his powers of assimilation covered a multitude of defects.

Joe Gans was a thorough workman and a sight of him in action was as great a treat as a stunt of boxing could desire. He stepped around in a soft footed way, and was never out of a position. His manner of ending it all with a downward clip of the right, delivered without drawing back the elbow, was well worth the price of admission.

He was an artist and it was a lament with old sports, that Joe and an Audito did not flourish contemporaneously. A tilt between the pair would have been worth a journey to see.

Credit for Negro Boxers. In answering the questions put to me, candor has required that I give credit to certain negro boxers. A little reflection will make it evident to all fair minded sports that the negroes have been more prominent than any other race in pugilism during the past quarter of a century.

It is more than probable that for every negro engaged in fighting there have been five or six white men who have been in the same line of work. The negroes have been more prominent than any other race in pugilism during the past quarter of a century.

George Dixon, Joe Walcott, Joe Gans, Peter Jackson, Sam Langford, Jack Johnson. And select the names of six white men who have done better than these.

HOW GREAT MEN PLAY THE GAME;

By Scar



ALEXANDER RITCHIE HIS FAMOUS CROSSBOW AND MOST DECEPTIVE BALL WITH A SIDE ARM OVERHAND MOVEMENT

HES A GOOD HITTER BUT HE FOOLS THE OTHERS BY HIS AMATEURISH POSE AT THE BAT

AND DID YOU EVER NOTICE THAT HE PLAYS SHARP HEAD AND SHARP TAIL HE WEIGHS

Football Men are Getting Ready For a Record Season

More than 1000 Games Are Scheduled Among the College Eleven—Early Season Contests Start in September, While Real Skirmishes Come in November—Harvard and Yale Meet Nov. 22.

NEW YORK, Aug. 2.—Although the intercollegiate football season is still two months away, the shadow of the gridiron game is already edging into the realms of sport. The schedule makers have been busy for some time, and are issuing calls for the gathering of candidates. The first week of September will witness initial practice at a number of eastern and western colleges and before October is reached games will have been won and lost on many a "crusty" football field.

Thousand Games Scheduled. Judged from present indications, the coming season should produce football in both quality and quantity such as no previous autumn has witnessed. Few changes have been made in the playing rules and both coaches and players will require but little time to which to familiarize themselves with the code alterations. More than one thousand games are scheduled among the college eleven and if the high school and preparatory academy contests are included the 1913 games will total in excess of three thousand.

The college play opens with a few scattering games on September 20 and the contests multiply rapidly on succeeding Saturdays until the climax is reached on November 22. Thanksgiving day games are still popular, and there are not many drafted or cheaply acquired men on his club. You've got to pay the price to get the talent—that is consistently true.

Chance Gets Four Players. Arthur Irwin, the New York American's scout, was the only one who saw the game in the league. He bought four men, including a promising young first baseman 32 years old. Some of the New York scouts are saying that Chance will get a winner in New York when he puts Irwin on the press gate taking passes.

Test Games in October. The first real test games will come early in October for on Saturday, October 4, Pennsylvania meets Lafayette while the Quakers will play at the University of Michigan. A week later the Carlisle Indians will try the mettle of Dr. Sharp's Cornell team, while the memory of Swarthmore's victory in 1912. Harvard meets Williams and Yale faces Lafayette on the same day.

Saturday, October 18, will find the following eleven lined up: Amherst vs. Trinity, Colgate vs. Army, Dartmouth vs. Williams, Lafayette vs. Swarthmore, Syracuse vs. Princeton and Pennsylvania vs. Brown. On October 25 Princeton plays Dartmouth, Michigan meets Vanderbilt, Pennsylvania tackles Carlisle, and Minnesota has Iowa as opponents.

The month of November brings the real clashes of the gridiron year. On the first day of the month Notre Dame will play at West Point, Cornell at Harvard, Syracuse at Michigan, Pennsylvania state at Pennsylvania, Virginia at Vanderbilt, Wisconsin at Minnesota and Colgate at Yale. Saturday, November 8, will see the following line-ups: Cornell vs. Michigan, Dartmouth vs. Pennsylvania, Harvard vs. Princeton, Pennsylvania State vs. Notre Dame, Tennessee vs. Vanderbilt, Yale vs. Brown and Chicago vs. Northwestern. A week later Yale plays

Princeton, Dartmouth faces Carlisle, Cornell opposes Lafayette, Brown is at Harvard, Pennsylvania at Michigan, Chicago at Minnesota and Pennsylvania State will try out the Navy eleven.

The big game of Saturday, November 22, is the Harvard-Yale match at Cambridge. Other contests of importance include Syracuse vs. Carlisle, Lehigh vs. Lafayette, Minnesota vs. Illinois, Wisconsin vs. Chicago, Missouri vs. Kansas, Wesleyan vs. Trinity, Nebraska vs. Iowa, and Tulane vs. Louisiana.

BRADEN DIRECT WINS RACE ON FIRST START OF SEASON

Split Hairs Feature 2-11 Pace for \$5000

Grand Rapids, Mich., Aug. 2.—Starting for the first time this season, Braden Direct won the free for all pacing event, best two, in three in straight heats in the Grand Circuit meet here Friday. The time was 2:04 and 2:07. Strathmore won the 2:17 race in which Mack Thistle was the favorite.

BENNY CHAVEZ WINS OVER BATTING CHICO

Albuquerque, N. M., Aug. 2.—Benny Chavez, of Trinidad, won the decision over Batting Chico, of Los Angeles, last night in a fight that was marked by furious mugging for the full 10 rounds. Chico had but one round of the 10, that being the sixth. His face was badly battered and his right eye closed. Chavez was unmarked as he left the ring. Both finished strong.

Harry Atwood, of Los Angeles, a featherweight, fought a six-round decision bout with Harry Thorpe, of Kansas City.

PHONE 1 FOR LIMOUSINE—Advertisement.

After Aug. 1, Alhambra Dairy depot, 1217 E. Missouri, Phone 979.—Advertisement.

Smith Is Favored to Win Over Flynn In Battle at New York

Fight Followers Want to See Arthur Pelky Eliminate Some of the "Hopes" Before Claiming the Championship—Ritchie Keeps Fans Guessing.

NEW YORK, Aug. 2.—The best looking bout on the cards for the coming week is the Jim Flynn-"Gunboat" Smith 10-round battle, which matchmaker Billy Gibson will reopen the big Madison Square Garden arena, next Friday night.

It is surprising the amount of interest this match has aroused among the local sporting folk. The demand for seats is unusually heavy, considering the time of the year and the big local slump local boxing has experienced the past six months.

The outcome of the bout will mean a great deal more to Smith than to Flynn. If the "Gunboat" wins in an impressive manner he will stand out above the other white heavyweights. While on the other hand should Flynn emerge the victor he will be forced to look to some one of the other "hopes" for assistance in the attempt to bring back the crown that Jeffries surrendered to Johnson, at Reno, three years ago.

While the "Gunboat" weight will be made up of good bone and muscle, while Flynn will be carrying considerable flesh, there is no doubt in the favor, with the single exception of experience. And he has had enough of that, it seems to me, to answer all requirements. Smith is a much younger man than his opponent, has a punch that has brought him to his present position in pugilism, without the assistance of anything that suggests boxing skill, and for the first time since he came here, the public prominently will not be giving a ton of weight away. Flynn and Smith will scale, I should think, at about the same poundage. And the "Gunboat" weight will be made up of good bone and muscle, while Flynn will be carrying considerable flesh, there is no doubt in the favor, with the single exception of experience. And he has had enough of that, it seems to me, to answer all requirements. 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